

1954

Carmarthen Rural Sanitary Authority

Sixty-Third

Annual Report


of the Sanitary Conditions of
the Carmarthen Rural District
for the Year 1954

by

ELFYN T. JONES

B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health



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PREFACE

To the Chairman and Members of the Carmarthen Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1954.

During the year the Whitland Sewerage Scheme was completed, i.e., as far as the laying of the main sewer and the construction of disposal works were concerned.

It is regrettable that the response from the public in connecting their properties to the sewer is not what it should be. In future schemes the Council propose incorporating the sewer connection in the contract for the construction of the sewer and thereby obviate this possible delay. Even so, it appears that the public, despite their persistent appeals for sewerage schemes, do not appreciate the installation of such a scheme as readily as they might, and there is undoubtedly unnecessary delay in taking advantage of it by the construction of water closets and the provision of new drainage schemes for waste-water.

Housing construction proceeded at a satisfactory pace, though in some areas, due to lack of sites, the need is as great as ever. As pointed out last year it would be a serious undertaking to transfer these persons to areas where suitable sites can be obtained.

The Llawddog Scheme for the provision of water to the northern part of the Rural District did not progress as well as had been expected. This area is in urgent need of a water supply and it is hoped that in the coming year progress will be speeded up.

I should like to emphasise the urgent need for the commencement of the Eastern Area Scheme as this scheme will supply a further area of the Rural District which is urgently in need of water. Furthermore, until this scheme is in operation any further erection of houses at Pensarn is impossible—a rather disquieting thought when one realises there is a waiting list of over seventy applicants. It is hoped that the coming year will see an early commencement to the scheme.

On the whole the health of the population has been maintained at a satisfactory level. The infant mortality rate remained more or less constant as compared with the previous year, and there was no outbreak of infectious disease.

During the year the number of deaths from cancer was eight more than for the previous year. The majority of these deaths, approximately 74%, occurred in persons over the age of 55 years, and fifteen of the deaths occurred among persons over 75 years of age.

Of the fifty-four deaths from cancer seven were from cancer of the lung, and of these seven, six were males. All the six males were under 62 years of age, the youngest being 47 years old.

I wish to gratefully acknowledge the work carried out by my staff, and to thank the Members of the Council for the whole-hearted manner in which they have supported me.

I wish to thank my colleagues and their staff for their continued support and help.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ELFYN T. JONES,

Medical Officer of Health.

No specific Committees deal with matters of public health ; the whole Council is responsible.

The following are Members of the Council :—

Mr. J. H. Davies (Chairman)

Mr. T. D. Dempster.	Mr. Handel Rees.
Mr. D. R. Williams.	Mr. T. Fleming Williams.
Mr. H. H. Davies.	Rev. William Harry.
Rev. J. Marlais Thomas.	Mr. William Lewis.
Mr. D. J. Richards.	Mr. H. D. Jenkins.
Mr. A. V. Key.	Mr. O. J. Williams.
Mr. I. J. Williams.	Mr. Simon Davies.
Mr. David Jones.	Mr. D. C. Thomas.
Mr. David Thomas.	Mr. B. O. Howells.
Mr. T. H. Richards.	Mr. David Griffiths.
Mr. Daniel Jones.	Mr. H. V. Owen.
Mr. Daniel Williams.	Mr. J. Ivor Davies.
Mr. Kenneth Howells.	Mr. D. J. Davies.
Mr. Thomas Evans.	Mr. Tom Pomeroy.
Mr. A. T. Griffiths.	Mr. W. S. Cole.
Mr. William Thomas.	Mr. W. D. Cunnick.
Mr. J. C. Evans.	Mr. Stephen Davies.
Mr. Samuel Jenkins.	

STAFF—PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health :

Elfyn T. Jones, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspectors :

Wm. Williams, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I. (Meat Certificate). Senior.

W. D. Morgan, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.

G. Thomas, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I. (Meat Certificate).

Rodent Operators :

D. J. Jones (Rodent Officer).

T. G. Evans.

W. H. Smith.

Clerks :

D. J. G. Griffiths.

Mrs. M. Collins.

Clerk to the Rural District Council :

J. Jones, Esq.

Engineer and Surveyor to the Rural District Council :

G. G. Thomas, Esq.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The Carmarthen Rural District covers an area of 202,733 acres, and is divided into 29 Parishes, viz. :—Abergwili, Abernant, Conwil Elfed, Llanllawddog, Llanpumpsaint, Llanarthney, Llanddarog, Llangunnor, Llandyfaelog, Llangendeirne, St. Ishmael, Llangain, Llangynog, Llanstephan, Newchurch, Laugharne Township, Llanddowror, Llangynin, Llanwinio, Meidrim, St. Clears, Trelech-a'r-Betws, Cilymaenllwyd, Henllanfallteg, Llandissilio-East, Eglwyscummin, Llanboidy, Pendine and Whitland.

The mid-year home population as estimated by the Registrar-General for 1954 is :—28,560.

For Registration purposes, the area is divided into the following four Registration Sub-Districts :—

Abergwili, Llangain and St. Clears (Carmarthen Rural).
Llangendeirne.
Conwil.
Llanboidy.

For Sanitary Administration purposes, the area is divided into three Divisions, and each is under the direct supervision of a Sanitary Inspector. The Divisions are as follows :—

Carmarthen Division	.....	Parishes of Abergwili, Abernant, Conwil Elfed, Llanpumpsaint, Llangain, Llangynog, Llanllawddog, Llanstephan, Newchurch, Meidrim, Trelech-a'r-Betws, and Part of St. Clears.
Llangendeirne Division	.....	Parishes of Llanarthney, Llanddarog, Llangunnor, Llandyfaelog, Llangendeirne and St. Ishmael.
Whitland Division	.....	Parishes of Laugharne Township, Llanboidy, Llanddowror, Llangynin, Llanwinio, Cilymaenllwyd, Henllanfallteg, Llandissilio-East, Eglwyscummin, Pendine, Whitland and Part of St. Clears.

The area is mainly agricultural, the inhabitants being engaged in farming and trades allied to it. Milk factories are situated at Whitland, St. Clears and Pensarn (Llangunnor). The bulk (on an average over 60,000 gallons) of the milk from the factories at Pensarn and Whitland is transported daily to London. Portions of the Parishes of Llanarthney, Llanddarog and Llangendeirne border on the anthracite coalfield, and naturally, the main occupation of that area is coal mining. In addition, there are a few quarries in the rural area, particularly along the limestone ridge in the eastern

part of the district. The Railways throughout the area provide employment for a large number of persons, particularly in the Western Parishes around Whitland.

No particular occupation (coal mining excepted) can be said to have any prejudicial effect upon the health of the people.

The Rateable Value of the area is £72,420, the sum represented by a Penny Rate £290 0s. 0d. and the number of inhabited houses at the end of the year according to the Rate Book is 8,529.

Comparison for the last 5 years.

Year	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Population	27970	28230	28430	28450	28560
Rateable Value	£65,500	£67,222	£68,543	£69,537	£72,420
Penny Rate	£273/10/0	£280	£285	£290	£298
Inhabited Houses	8027	8222	8314	8416	8529

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

Live Births :

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	228	198	426
Illegitimate	10	10	20

There were 446 live births during the year, and this represents a birth rate of 15.62 per 1,000 estimated home population.

To compare the crude birth-rate of different areas would give an erroneous impression, and such factors as average age of the population, proportion of sexes, etc., must be taken into account. The Registrar-General provides us with a factor which assists in converting the crude birth-rate into a standardised birth-rate which is more efficient for comparison purposes. The factor given is 1.06 and the standardised birth-rate hence becomes 16.56.

Birth-rate comparison with that for England and Wales :

Carmarthen Rural District	16.56
England and Wales	15.2

Still-Births :

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Still-births	10	3	13
Still-birth rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births—	28.3		
Still-birth rate per 1,000 home population—	0.46		

For comparison purposes with the still-birth rates in other areas the rate of 28.3 per 1,000 total (Live and Still Births) becomes 29.99, and the rate of 0.46 per 1,000 estimated home population becomes 0.49, i.e., after taking into account the comparability factor given by the Registrar-General.

Still-Birth rate comparison with that for England and Wales :

Carmarthen Rural District	.....	.....	.....	29.99
England and Wales	.....	.....	.....	23.4

DEATHS.

			Males.		Females.		Total.
Deaths	.....	.....	190	.....	148	.....	338

Death rate per 1,000 estimated home population—11.83.

To compare the crude death-rate of different areas would give an erroneous impression, and such factors as average age of the population, proportion of sexes, etc., must be taken into account. The Registrar-General provides us with a factor which assists in converting the crude death-rate into a standardised death-rate which is more efficient for comparison purposes. The factor given is 1.03 and the standardised death-rate hence becomes 12.18.

Death-Rate comparison with that for England and Wales :

Carmarthen Rural District	.....	.....	.....	12.18
England and Wales	.....	.....	.....	11.3

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1954.

Causes of Death.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Death-rate per 1,000 Home population
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	3	2	5	0.1751
Tuberculosis (other) .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Syphilitic disease .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diphtheria .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Whooping Cough .....	.....	1	1	0.0350
Meningococcal infections .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Measles .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Other infective and parasitic diseases .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	10	15	0.5249
Malignant neoplasm, lungs, bronchus	6	1	7	0.2451
Malignant neoplasm, breast .....	.....	2	2	0.0700
Malignant neoplasm, uterus .....	.....	1	1	0.0350
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	12	17	29	1.0154
Leukaemia, aleukaemia .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diabetes .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Vascular lesions of nervous system	18	33	51	1.7857
Coronary disease, angina	28	16	44	1.5406
Hypertension with heart disease	2	.....	2	0.0700
Other heart disease	23	24	47	1.6457
Other circulatory disease	10	10	20	0.7003
Influenza	2	1	3	0.1050
Pneumonia	6	2	8	0.2801
Bronchitis	12	1	13	0.4552
Other diseases of respiratory system	24	3	27	0.9454
Ulcer—stomach and duodenum	1	.....	1	0.0350
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	.....	1	0.0350
Nephritis and nephrosis .....	.....	2	2	0.0700
Hyperplasia of prostate	5	.....	5	0.1751
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .....	.....	1	1	0.0350
Congenital malformations .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	21	19	40	1.4006
Motor vehicle accidents	3	.....	3	0.1050
All other accidents	5	.....	5	0.1751
Suicide	2	1	3	0.1050
Homicide and operations of war	1	1	2	0.0700
Total	190	148	338	11.83

Infant Mortality :

Deaths of Infants under one year of age (M. 1; F. 5) 6.
 Of the six deaths recorded above five deaths
 occurred in infants under four weeks of age (M. 1 ; F. 4).

Live births during the year (Legitimate and Illegitimate)	446
Death rate of all infants per 1,000 live births	13.45
Death rate of Legitimate infants per 1,000 Legitimate live births	14.08
Death rate of Illegitimate infants per 1,000 Illegitimate live births	0.00

On taking into account the comparability factor of 1.03 provided by the Registrar-General which enables a comparison of the death rate in the Rural District with that in other areas to be made, the death rate of infants under the age of one year in the Rural District becomes 13.85.

Comparison of Infant Mortality Rate with that for England and Wales :

Carmarthen Rural District	13.85
England and Wales	25.5

Causes of Infant Deaths :

Prematurity	4
Atelectasis	1
Miliary Tuberculosis (Lungs mainly)	1

Ages at which Infant Deaths occurred :

Under 1 day	2
2 days to 3 days	2
2 weeks to 3 weeks	1
3 months to 4 months	1

— 6

Maternal Deaths :

One maternal death occurred during the year.

Deaths from Cancer :

During the year fifty-four persons died from cancer. This is eight more than for the previous year.

The age groups effected are as follows :—

5 to 10 years	1
20 to 25 years	1
25 to 30 years	1
40 to 45 years	1
45 to 50 years	5
50 to 55 years	5
55 to 60 years	6
60 to 65 years	6
65 to 70 years	6
70 to 75 years	7
75 years and over	15

Parts of the Body Involved :

		No. of Cases.		
		M.	F.	Total.
Malignant neoplasm—stomach	.....	5	10	15
Malignant neoplasm—lungs, bronchus	.....	6	1	7
Malignant neoplasm—breast	.....	—	2	2
Malignant neoplasm—uterus	.....	—	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	.....	12	17	29
				54

Deaths from Tuberculosis :

		Males.	Females.	Total.
Number of deaths from Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	.....	3	2	5
Number of deaths from Tuberculosis (Non-Pulmonary)	.....	—	—	—
Death rate per 1,000 home population (Pulmonary)	.....			0.175
Death rate per 1,000 home population (Non-Pulmonary)	.....			0.000

Tuberculosis—Rate per 1,000 Home Population of Notifications :—

Year.	Notifications.
1950	1.10
1951	1.42
1952	1.23
1953	1.48
1954	1.23

During the year 35 new cases of tuberculosis were notified. Twenty-seven of these cases occurred in persons under the age of 45 years, and the actual number of these cases in their age groups was as follows :—

Under 5 years	.....	1 case.
5 to 14 years	.....	5 cases.
15 to 24 years	.....	11 cases.
25 to 44 years	.....	10 cases.

DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS DURING 1954 INTO PARISHES

[illegible]

Parish	NOTIFICATIONS						No. OF DEATHS					
	Respiratory			Meninges and C.N.S.			Respiratory			Meninges and C.N.S.		
	M.	F.	Other	M.	F.	Other	M.	F.	Other	M.	F.	Other
Meidrim	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Clears	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trelech-a'r-Betws	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cilymaenllwyd	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Henllanfallteg	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Llandissilio East	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Eglwyscummmin	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Llanboidy	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pendine	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whitland	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	14	15	—	1	—	2	3	2	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS—NOTIFICATIONS AND WITHDRAWALS

[illegible]

NEW CASES OF, AND MORTALITY FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1954

Age Period in Years	NEW CASES						DEATHS							
	Respiratory			Meninges and C.N.S.			Other		Respiratory		Meninges and C.N.S.		Other	
	M.	F.		M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	1	1	6	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	1	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
65—75	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
75 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	14	15	—	1	—	—	3	2	3	2	—	—	—	—

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Laboratory Facilities :

In the investigation and control of infectious disease full use was made of the facilities available at the Public Health Laboratory Service at Penlan Road, Carmarthen.

Ambulance Facilities :

Ambulance facilities including facilities for the transport of sitting car cases are under the control of the County Council.

Home Nursing :

This service is undertaken in the Rural District by twelve District Nurses under arrangement made by the County Council with District Nursing Associations. One District Nursing Association (Llan-gathen) which area includes a part of the Rural District, was amalgamated with the Llanfynydd District Nursing Association during the year. The County Council also directly employ four District Nurse/Midwives in the areas where there are no Nursing Associations, viz. :—Mydrim and Trelech, Gorslas, Drefach and Pontyates.

Infant Welfare Centres :

During the year, a new Infant Welfare Centre was opened at Trelech. At the end of the year there were ten Infant Welfare Centres in the Rural District, viz. :—Carmarthen, Ferryside, Gorslas (Cross Hands), Laugharne, Llanstephan, Pendine, Pontyates, St. Clears, Trelech and Whitland.

Ante-Natal Clinics :

At the end of the year Ante-Natal Clinics at Carmarthen, Kidwelly, Cross Hands, Llandilo and Pontyates were catering for the area of the Rural District.

The Care of Unmarried Mothers and their Children :

There is no change in the arrangements mentioned in my last year's Annual Report for the Care of Unmarried Mothers and their Children. This is the responsibility of the County Council.

Hospital Accommodation :

Infectious Diseases :

The Infectious Diseases Hospital is situated at Upper Tumble, Nr. Llanelly, and is under the control of the Regional Hospital Board.

General Hospital Facilities :

Hospital facilities are available at Priory Street and at Glangwili, and both hospitals are known as the West Wales General Hospital. The hospital provides treatment for general medical and surgical diseases for the whole of the West Wales area.

There is still a need for extra accommodation for the nursing of the chronic sick and aged. Bed facilities for such persons are strictly limited and to obtain an emergency admission is impossible due to the large number already on the waiting list for admission.

Venereal Diseases :

The Regional Hospital Board is responsible for the treatment of Venereal Diseases. There are no clinics in the area of the Rural District, the nearest being at Llanelly.

Tuberculosis :

The notification rate of Tuberculosis for the year was 1.23 as compared with 1.48 for the previous year. There were 35 cases of tuberculosis notified as compared with 42 cases notified in the previous year. It is to be hoped that this reduction will be maintained in the years to come. It is noticeable that of these 35 cases 17 of them occurred in the age group "fifteen to thirty-five" years. This fact is rather disturbing as it is between these ages that mankind firstly commences to train himself for his future occupation in life, and secondly, endeavours to establish himself as a useful working member of the community.

National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951 :

Section 47 of the 1948 Act—Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

Although a number of cases were investigated with this end in view, it is pleasing to note that suitable alternative arrangements through relatives were made, thus obviating the need to take this harsh procedure.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Housing :

The Council's Housing Programme continued to progress satisfactorily during the year. The total number of houses completed during the year was 96 making a total number of 661 houses completed since 1946.

It was pleasing to see final steps being taken in liquidating the ex-P.O.W. Camp Site at Llanddarog. During the year the building of non-traditional type houses on this site was commenced, and it is hoped to see their completion in 1955.

Once again I must reiterate my statement of last year with regard to rents, particularly in view of the Ministry's decision to reduce the amount of subsidy. As I have pointed out previously the Rural District of Carmarthen is, with the exception of a small fringe area, essentially agricultural, and the average wage in no way compares with that prevalent in a truly industrial area. It appears to me that unless this question of rent can be settled, Slum Clearance will be completely out of the question.

Housing Act, 1949 :

During the year 130 applications were made for Improvement Grants under the above Act. All these applications were carefully investigated by a Committee together with the Engineer and also the Sanitary Inspector for the area concerned. During the year 116 applications for grants were approved by the Council, in principle.

The Council can feel well satisfied with its achievements in this direction, and it can safely be said that improvement of houses is gradually becoming as important as the erection of new houses.

Mr. G. G. Thomas, the Council's Engineer and Surveyor, shows in the following table the position of Housing at the end of the year 1954.

POST WAR PROGRAMME

Parish.	Site.	Area of Site (Acres).	Total number of houses to be built on each site.	In Tender.	Under Construction	No. of Houses completed.
Abergwili	Abergwili (Ismyrddin)	0.5	4	4	.....	4
	Extension to Ismyrddin	0.54	4	4	.....	.....
	High Street, Abergwili	1.93	22	.....	.....	.....
Abernant	Talog	0.35	4	.....	.....	4
	Abernant	0.75	4	.....	.....	4
Conwil Elfed	Conwil	Undecided	8	.....	.....	.....
Llanllawddog	Pontarsais	0.50	4	4	.....	8
Llanpumpsaunt	Llanpumpsaunt	0.80	8	.....	4	42
Llanarthney	Llanarthney	1.02	10	2	16	18
	Gorslas	13.48	98	.....	.....	24
	Cofneithin (i)	3.168	18	.....	.....	24
	Cefneithin (ii)	2.363	24	.....	.....	8
	Drefach (i)	3.982	24	.....	18	44
	Drefach (ii)	2.693	26	.....	.....	.....
	Pensarn (i)	4.99	44	.....	.....	.....
Llangunnor	Pensarn (ii)	3.00	32	.....	.....	.....

Parish.	Site.	Area of Site (Acres).	Total number of houses to be built on each site.	In Tender.	Under Construction	No. of Houses completed.
Llanddarog	Llanddarog....	Ex-P.O.W. Camp.	42 Huts.	....	....	42 Huts.
	Llanddarog....	Ex-P.O.W. Camp.	63	30	10	....
Llandyfaelog	Porthyrhyd	2.11	16	....	....	16
	Mynyddcerrieg	2.32	12	....	....	12
	Llandyfaelog	0.90	6	....	....	6
	Bancycapel	0.42	4	....	....	4
	Idole	0.505	6	....	....	....
Llangendeirne	Pontyates (i)	5.39	30	....	....	30
	Pontyates (ii)	4.922	44	2	12	12
	Carway (i)	5.88	44	....	....	44
	Four Roads	1.10	8	....	....	8
	Crwbin	1.32	8	....	....	8
	Llangendeirne	0.955	8	....	....	8
	Bancffosfelen	0.93	10	....	....	10
	Bancffosfelen Extn.	0.437	4	....	4	....
	Ferryside	5.016	36	....	6	24
	Llansaint (i)	0.95	8	....	....	8
St. Ishmael	Llansaint (ii)	0.99	8	....	....	8
	Smyna	0.49	6	....	....	....
	Ebenezer	0.70	6	....	....	6
	Llanstephan	2.55	20	....	4	16
	Llanybri	2.32	12	....	....	8
Newchurch	Esgair Hir	0.44	4	....	....	4
	Esgair Hir Extn.	0.68	4	....	....	....
	Cwmdwyfran	2.30	21	5	6	....

Parish.	Site.	Area of Site (Acres).	Total number of houses to be built on each site.	In Tender.	Under Construction	No. of Houses completed.
Laugharne Township	Laugharne	10.02	64	....	....	62
Llanddowror	Llanddowror	Undecided	4	....	....	....
Llangynin	Llangynin	0.952	4	4	....	4
Llanwinio	Brynawel	0.65	4	....	....	12
Meidrim	Meidrim (i)	2.29	12	....	....	10
	Meidrim (ii)	1.05	10	....	....	36
St. Clears	St. Clears (i)	4.53	36	....	14	13
	St. Clears (ii)	4.34	44	....	....	5 huts
	Lon-y-Prior	Ex-Hostel	8	....	6	2
	Lon-y-Prior	Ex-Hostel	16	....	....	16
	Bancyfelin (i)	1.91	10	....	10	....
	Bancyfelin (ii)	1.60	12	....	....	12
Trelech-a'r-Betws	Trelech	1.09	4	....	....	4
	Penybont	0.50	4	2	....	....
Cilymaenllwyd	Efailwen	0.66	4	....	2	....
	Llanglydwen	0.55	4	....	....	20
Llandissilio East	Clynderwen	2.68	26	....	....	....
Eglwyscummmin	Red Roses	0.781	4	....	....	4
Pendine	Upper Pendine	0.88	4	....	....	....
	Llanmiloe	3.90	36	36	....	26
Whitland	North Road	4.40	26	....	....	28
	Spring Gardens	7.93	54	....	6	....
Totals			1,108 Houses 47 Huts	89	118	661 Houses 47 Huts

Water Supply :

Mr. G. G. Thomas, the Council's Engineer and Surveyor, reports as follows on the position at the end of the year 1954 :—

“ The year under review did not witness any outstanding changes in the Council's water supplies.

Steady progress is being maintained in the construction of the Llawddog Water Scheme but it is doubtful whether the long awaited completion of this scheme will be realised before the end of 1955.

As my report for the year 1953 indicated, the Council has been endeavouring for some time to seek permission to extend the mains of the Western Area Water Scheme in various directions to serve the needs of outlying districts. I am pleased to report that the Ministry has authorised work to proceed on fourteen of the eighteen extensions submitted for consideration. It is anticipated that the Contracts will commence early in 1955 and that the entire programme will be completed towards the late summer.

Similarly permission has been received to construct a new water scheme in the village of Carway which is situated in the industrial region of this Rural District. Water will now be purchased in bulk from the Llanelly Rural District Council.

It is regretted that the long awaited permission to proceed with the Eastern Area Water Scheme has not been received although the sinking of a borehole in connection with the scheme has been sanctioned and work thereon has already commenced.

The Council is still pursuing the question of providing a piped supply of water to the fringe areas on the western extremity of the District. It is hoped that material progress will soon be evident in these districts and that the dire need of a wholesome supply of water in these remote areas will be satisfied.

Constant vigilance has been maintained to ensure the purity and adequacy of all supplies.”

Dwelling houses and number of population supplied from Public Water Mains are as follows :—

Parish.	Houses Supplied from Standpipes	Houses connected to mains.	Total.	Popula- tion.
Abergwili	10	153	163	670
Abernant	8	13	21	70
Pendine.....	Nil	60	60	300
Henllanfallteg	1	45	46	100
Whitland	Nil	390	390	1560
Trelech-a'r-Betws	Nil	30	30	120
Llangendeirne	20	369	389	1556
St. Ishmael	32	335	367	1450
Llanarthney and Llanddarog	10	724	734	2936
Laugharne Township	Nil	1115	1115	4460
St. Clears				
Eglwyscummin				
Llanddowror				
Meidrim	10	15	25	100
Llandyfaelog				

Sampling of Water Supplies :

As in former years, sampling of water supplies is carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors, and is performed as carefully as possible.

Bacteriological examination of water is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory Service, Carmarthen and by the Public Analyst at Bank Lane, Carmarthen. Chemical examination of water is also carried out by the latter.

With the exception of one source, no supply has a plumbo-solvent action. The source referred to is treated by filtration through magnesite before entering the service mains, and tests of the water in these mains have not shown any plumbo-solvent action.

SAMPLES OF WATER TAKEN DURING THE YEAR FROM PUBLIC SUPPLIES

Date.	Source.	Type of Examination.	Result.
4/1/54	Henllanangoed Village Supply	Bacteriological	Satisfactory.
18/1/54	Whitland Public Supply	"	Satisfactory.
20/1/54	Llanboidy Village Supply	"	Unsatisfactory.
27/1/54	Clynderwen Public Supply—Narberth R.D. Supply	"	Doubtful.
27/1/54	Llanglydwen Village Supply	"	Satisfactory.
10/2/54	Whitland Public Supply	"	Satisfactory.
10/2/54	Western Area Water Supply (Red Roses)	"	Satisfactory.
10/2/54	Pendine Public Supply	"	Unsatisfactory.
23/2/54	Western Area Water Supply (Laugharne)	"	Satisfactory.
23/2/54	Pendine Public Supply	"	Unsatisfactory.
23/2/54	Pensarn Public Supply	"	Satisfactory.
2/3/54	Western Area Water Supply (St. Clears)	"	Satisfactory.
29/3/54	Whitland Public Supply	"	Satisfactory.
29/3/54	Llanboidy Public Supply	"	Satisfactory.
1/4/54	Western Area Water Supply (Laugharne)	"	Satisfactory.
14/4/54	Western Area Water Supply (Laugharne)	"	Satisfactory.
14/4/54	Whitland Public Supply	"	Satisfactory.
14/4/54	Western Area Water Supply (St. Clears)	"	Satisfactory.
31/5/54	Llanboidy Public Supply	"	Satisfactory.
1/6/54	Llanfallteg Village Public Supply	"	Unsatisfactory.
28/6/54	Whitland Public Supply	"	Satisfactory.
28/6/54	Western Area Water Supply (Laugharne)	"	Satisfactory.
28/6/54	Western Area Water Supply (Gate House, Tavernspite)	"	Satisfactory.
27/7/54	Llanboidy Public Supply	"	Doubtful.
14/9/54	Esgair Hir Council Houses, Newchurch	"	Unsatisfactory.

Date.	Source.	Type of Examination.	Result.
21/9/54	Talog Public Supply	.....	Satisfactory.
21/9/54	Abernant Public Supply	.....	Unsatisfactory.
29/9/54	Whitland Public Supply	.....	Satisfactory.
2/11/54	Whitemill Village Supply	.....	Unsatisfactory.
9/11/54	Western Area Water Supply (St. Clears)	.....	Satisfactory.
9/11/54	Login Village Supply	.....	Unsatisfactory.
24/11/54	Llanfallteg Village Supply	.....	Satisfactory.
24/11/54	Whitland Public Supply	.....	Satisfactory.
24/11/54	Clynderwen Public Supply—Narberth R.D. Supply	.....	Unsatisfactory.
17/12/54	Llanarthney Village Supply	.....	Satisfactory.

Domestic Connections to Farm Water Supply System :

Grant-aided Schemes of the County Agricultural Executive Committee.

As in former years the Sanitary Inspectors have co-operated with the Water Supplies Officer of the Carmarthenshire Agricultural Executive Committee, and during the year they have taken samples of water for examination from proposed sources of supply.

Sewerage :

Mr. G. G. Thomas, the Council's Engineer and Surveyor, reports as follows :—

During the year 1954 work has been progressing steadily to connect individual properties to the Council's sewers.

The majority of properties in the industrial area around Drefach have already been connected and it is anticipated that by mid summer 1955 all possible properties will be served by the Sewerage Schemes which have been constructed jointly with the Llanelly Rural District Council.

Similarly most properties in Whitland have been connected to the newly constructed sewerage scheme.

Tenders have been invited in connection with the proposed Llansaint Sewerage Scheme and it is hoped that work will commence early in 1955.

No other sewerage scheme has reached a similar stage but preparatory work is proceeding on the proposed Ferryside, Abergwili and Llanstephan schemes and it is hoped that the year 1955 will see further strides in the provision of the long awaited schemes for these areas.

'REFUSE COLLECTION

The system of direct labour for savenging throughout the whole of the Rural District was maintained during the year. The system works quite efficiently, and despite most inclement weather on numerous occasions the work has always been completed.

From time to time requests are made for the extension to new areas of the refuse collection service. Despite re-organisation of routes and times of servicing of vehicles (the latter is now carried out in the evening) it has been found impracticable to meet all demands. Unfortunately the putting into operation of an additional collection vehicle and crew is not a practical proposition as there is not sufficient work to keep such a vehicle and crew fully employed for half a week let alone for a whole week. To meet the requests of the public the only practical solution is to work overtime as the additional expense incurred in so doing is infinitely less than the expense which would be incurred by having an additional vehicle and crew.

I should like to thank the refuse collection crews for the manner in which they have accepted this additional work, and also for the way in which they have always completed the work, especially during inclement weather.

In some areas (in particular I refer to the Pontyates and Carway area) collection of refuse is made much more difficult by the non-availability of suitable places for tipping the refuse. I shall be very grateful if the Members of the Council will inform me of any suitable sites in their localities where refuse can be tipped. In particular, old disused quarries or useless marshes would be most suitable.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

No licences were issued relative to moveable dwellings during the year.

RODENT CONTROL

As in former years the Rodent Control Scheme continued to be maintained at a very high level under the supervision of the Rodent Officer and with the co-operation of the district Sanitary Inspectors.

A brief summary of the treatments carried out during the year is as follows :—

1. No. of treatments to Business Premises—60.
2. No. of treatments to Dwelling Houses—1,070.
3. No. of treatments to Local Authority Properties—68.

It is noteworthy that the number of treatments to Dwelling Houses has increased considerably as compared with previous years. Sewers were systematically tested, and this work will continue to increase as the Council's new sewerage schemes become completed.

In carrying out these rodent infestation treatments the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries technique was strictly adhered to, i.e., the base baits being sausage rusk, oatmeal and flour, with warfarin, zink phosphide and mafantu as the principal poisons.

This service is most appreciated by the public, and frequently one receives reports of the most efficient manner in which the operators carry out their duties.

Administration of the Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948

Duties of the Sanitary Authority under the Factories Acts have been carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors as part of their routine work, and a close liaison has been maintained as in former years with the Inspector of Factories.

Part 1 of the Act.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises. (1)	M/c. line No. (2)	Number on Register. (3)	Number of			M/c. line No. (7)
			Inspections. (4)	Written Notices. (5)	Occupiers prosecuted. (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	40	31	Nil.	Nil.	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	95	36	Nil.	Nil.	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	14	11	Nil.	Nil.	3
Total		149	78	Nil.	Nil.	

2 Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars. (1)	M/c. line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (7)	M/c. line No. (8)
		Found. (3)	Remedied. (4)	Referred.			
				To H.M. Inspector. (5)	By H.M. Inspector. (6)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :—							
(a) insufficient	9	11	11	Nil	5	Nil	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	4	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	10
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	12
Total	60	15	15	Nil	5	Nil	60

Part VIII of the Act.

Outwork

(Sections 110 and 111).

The return required under Part VIII. of the Act is " Nil."

SCHOOLS

The Local Education Authority is the County Council. There are 56 Primary Schools (57 Departments) and 2 Secondary Schools within the Rural area.

During the year Pantycaws C.P. School was closed from 22nd November to 28th November on account of Influenza.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Diphtheria

No case of diphtheria occurred during the year.

I should like to reiterate my statement of last year, namely freedom from diphtheria is entirely due to the immunisation which has taken place during the past years, and if the state of immunity of the child population is permitted to fall then diphtheria will occur again. I cannot stress too strongly the need for the immunisation of all children, and also the value of the " booster " or " re-inforcing " doses at five and eight years of age.

Infantile Paralysis

During the year one case of infantile paralysis occurred, this being a boy aged 17 years who was employed as an agricultural worker. The case was of the paralytic type and was removed to the West Wales Isolation Hospital, Upper Tumble, Llanelly, for treatment.

There was no death from the disease.

Food Poisoning

No case of food poisoning occurred during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Numbers of all Cases of Infectious and other notifiable Diseases, originally notified during the year 1954, and of the final numbers according to Sex and Age after corrections subsequently made either by the Notifying Medical Practitioner or by the Medical Superintendent of the Infectious Diseases Hospital.

	Scarlet Fever.		Whooping Cough.		Acute Poliomyelitis.				Measles (excluding rubella).		Diphtheria.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	Paralytic.		Non-Paralytic.		M.	F.	M.	F.
					M.	F.	M.	F.				
Numbers originally notified :												
Total (All Ages) 	4	5	15	19	....	....	....	....	1	....	....	....
Final numbers after correction :												
Under 1 year ....	....	....	2	3	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
1—2 years ....	....	1	2	3	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
3—4 years ..	1	....	5	3	....	....	....	....	1	....	....	....
5—9 years 	2	3	6	5	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
10—14 years 	1	2	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
15—24 years ....	....	....	....	....	1	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
25 and over ....	....	....	1	2	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Age unknown ....	....	....	....	1	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Total (All Ages) 	4	6	16	17	1	....	....	....	1	....	....	....

Tuberculosis									
				Respiratory		Meninges and C.N.S.		Other	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Numbers originally notified :				15	16	1	—	3	2
Total (All Ages)				.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Final numbers after correction :				—	1	—	—	—	—
Under 5 years				.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5—14 years				.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
15—24 years				.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
25—44 years				.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
45—64 years				.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
65 and over				.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Age unknown				.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total (All Ages)				.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Other notifiable diseases.				Originally Notified.		Final numbers after corrections.			
				M.	F.	M.	F.		
Puerperal pyrexia				.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ophthalmia Neonatorum				.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

Distribution of Notifiable Diseases into Parishes:

[illegible]

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.

Parish.	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough		Acute Polio-myelitis		Measles	Diphtheria	Ac. Pneumonia	Dysentery	Smallpox	Acute enceph-alitis		Enteric or Typhoid fever	Paratyphoid fevers	Erysipelas	Meningococcal infection	Food poisoning	Tuber-culosis			Puerperal pyrexia	Ophthalmia neonatorum
			Paralytic	Non-Paralytic							Infective	Post-infectious						Respiratory	Meninges and C.N.S.	Other		
Llangynin	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Llanvinio	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meidrim	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Clears	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Trelech-a'r-Betws	1	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cilymaenllwyd	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Henllanfallteg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Llandissilio-East	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Eglwyscummyn	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Llanboidy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pendine	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whitland	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	10	33	1	...	...	...	...	9	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29	1	5	...	...
Number of cases Isolated at home	6	28	...	...	...	...	...	9	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	3	...	...
Number of cases re-moved to Isolation Hospital or Sana-torium	4	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	1	2	...	...

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The following statistics have been received from the County Medical Officer of Health relative to children in the Rural area immunised during the year:—

Children 0-5 years who completed full primary course—305.

Children aged 5-15 years who completed full primary course—9.

Number who received a “ re-inforcing ” injection—3.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 :

The enforcement of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 is the duty of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries but the Local Authority carries out the supervision of milk vendors.

ICE-CREAM

As during the previous year the manufacture and sale of Ice-Cream in the Rural District has been carried out in accordance with the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947 to 1952. The premises of Ice-Cream retailers and manufacturers are regularly visited and supervised, and samples are taken to ascertain the purity of the supplies. The results of the samples taken were on the whole satisfactory.

I must again draw attention to the necessity for handlers of this product, both wholesalers and retailers, to maintain a high standard of personal hygiene and the most scrupulous cleanliness whilst carrying out their work.

The number of Ice-Cream retailers in the Rural District at the end of 1954 was 50, and in addition there were 6 Ice-Cream manufacturers.

THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

The Food and Drugs Authority for the area is the County Council. Mr. D. R. Watkins, Chief Inspector of the County Council, reports as follows on work done during the year under the above Acts in the area of the Carmarthen Rural District :—

Food and Drugs Acts, 1938-1950 :

Total number of samples procured for examination and analysis	334
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Milk :

Official Samples submitted to the Public Analyst :

Number found to comply with the prescribed standards	68
Number found to be deficient in Non-Fatty Solids due to natural causes but were otherwise					
Genuine	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Number containing added water	.....				7
Number deficient in Butter-Fat content	.....				7
					<hr/>
Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	88
					<hr/>

The added water present varied between 6% and 14%. Legal action was taken in respect of the seven samples and fines and costs amounting to £51 11s. 0d. were imposed on the four milk producers responsible.

The deficiencies in Butter-Fat varied between 1% and 13%. After making investigations it was felt that the deficiencies were not, in all probability, due to deliberate abstraction of fat but were due to lack of care in handling the milk or to natural causes. The suppliers concerned were warned.

Informal Samples of Milk tested at this Office :

Number found satisfactory	.....	.....	.....	.....	162
Number found to contain Added Water	.....				2
Number deficient in Butter-Fat	.....				8
					<hr/>
Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	172
					<hr/>

These samples were taken at schools, school kitchens, children's home, canteens, dairies, etc.

Official samples, which are included above, were subsequently taken from the supplier of the two samples found to contain added water and legal action was taken against him.

Official samples were also taken, where this was considered necessary, from the suppliers of the samples deficient in butter-fat.

Miscellaneous Articles of Food and Drugs :

Number of samples submitted to the Public Analyst				28
Number reported to be satisfactory	.....	.....		26
Number reported unsatisfactory	.....	.....		2

One of the unsatisfactory samples was a sample of Sweets described as "Butter Candies." Sweets in the description of which the word "Butter" is used should contain at least 4% Butter-Fat. These sweets contained only 0.09% Fat. Legal action was taken against the manufacturers and a fine of £3 was imposed with £1 15s. 0d. costs.

The other unsatisfactory sample was a sample of Butter which contained a percentage of Water very slightly in excess of the permitted maximum of 16%. The Butter Merchant responsible was warned.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949-1953

During the year several visits were made to the two Milk Pasteurising establishments in the area in respect of which licences have been granted by the County Council for the sale of " Pasteurised Milk ". There were no serious irregularities and all of the forty-six samples of " Pasteurised Milk " taken at these establishments were reported to be satisfactory by the Doctor in charge of the Public Health Laboratory.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Until the decontrol of meat in July the Sanitary Inspectors employed by the Rural District Council assisted in the inspection of meat at the Borough Slaughterhouse. This assistance was carried out on a rota system.

In July, nineteen privately owned slaughterhouses were licenced in the Rural District. These slaughterhouses are situated throughout the whole of the Rural District and the Sanitary Inspector for the area concerned deals with the meat inspection in his district.

The following table is concerned with Carcases inspected in the Rural District only, i.e., since the decontrol of meat in July, and does not include the amount of meat inspected at the Borough Slaughterhouse previous to that date.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle, including Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed, if known,	254	66	745	137
Number inspected	254	66	745	137
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.				
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	201	2	509	15
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	79.13%	3.03%	68.32%	10.95%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.				
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	—	—	—	—

The following foodstuffs were condemned by the Sanitary Inspectors at Shops, etc. (excluding Slaughterhouses) :—

1,140 tins of various foodstuffs.
12 Stone of Fish.
173 lbs. Lamb.
13½ lbs. Bacon.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

There are thirty-five licensed slaughtermen within the area.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

For the purpose of Sanitary Inspection, the area is divided into three districts, with a Sanitary Inspector for each district.

Carmarthen District—Wm. Williams, Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Llangendeirne District—G. Thomas, Sanitary Inspector.

St. Clears District—W. D. Morgan, Sanitary Inspector.

Each Sanitary Inspector works under the general direction of the Medical Officer of Health, and makes a report on his area each month directly to the Council.

Record of Visits for 1954 :—

Nature of Visit or Inspection.	Carmarthen District.	Llangendearne District.	St. Clears District.	Total.
GENERAL SANITATION				
Water Supplies	34	89	102	225
Drainage	123	415	243	781
Offensive Trades	4	3	4	11
Tents, Vans, Sheds	20	36	43	99
Bakehouses	4	7	10	21
Public Conveniences	12	35	32	79
Refuse Collection	10	33	59	102
Refuse Disposal	28	66	53	147
Rats and Mice	7	9	1	17
Schools	18	25	14	57
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	34	52	47	133
HOUSING				
Under Public Health Acts.				
Number of Houses inspected	17	83	106	206
Visits paid to above houses	19	187	176	382
Under Housing Acts.				
Number of Houses inspected	85	113	84	282
Visits paid to above houses	204	176	136	516
Overcrowding.				
Number of Houses inspected	11	7	3	21
Visits paid to above houses	15	7	4	26
Verminous Premises.				
Number of Houses inspected	4	2	1	7
Visits paid to above houses	6	5	1	12
Miscellaneous Housing Visits....	64	352	215	631
Infectious Diseases.				
Inquiries in cases of Infectious Diseases				
.....	5	21	9	35
Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits				
.....	7	16	9	32
Number of rooms disinfected....	2	19	9	30
Number of times Steam Disinfectors used	—	—	—	—

Nature of Visit or Inspection.	Carmarthen District.	Llangendearne District.	St. Clears District.	Total.
MEAT & FOOD INSPECTION				
Inspection of Meat and Meat Shops.				
No. of Slaughterhouses in area.	5 (including 1 Horse Slaughterhouse).	7	8	20 (including 1 Horse Slaughterhouse).
No. of visits to above Slaughterhouses	61	180	174	415
No. of visits to Central Slaughterhouse in the Borough of Carmarthen (Jan. to end of June)	25	25	—	50
No. of visits to Shops and Stalls	5	32	14	51
No. of visits to Butchers	7	19	16	42
Ice-Cream Premises :				
No. of visits for purposes of inspection and sampling.....	9	15	6	30
NOTICES SERVED.				
Under the Housing Acts :				
No. of informal notices served	27	35	24	86
No. of informal notices complied with	17	29	18	64
No. of formal notices served	Nil	5	4	9
No. of formal notices complied with	Nil	4	3	7
Under the Public Health Acts :				
No. of informal notices served	3	33	37	73
No. of informal notices complied with	1	27	27	55
No. of formal notices served	Nil	2	4	6
No. of formal notices complied with	Nil	2	3	5

HOUSING

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

Nature of Visit or Inspection.	No. of Visits.
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	381
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose.....	757
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925	—
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose.....	—
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	35
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive to those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respect reasonably fit for human habitation	111

2. Remedy of defects during the year without Service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers..... ..	127
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3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	6
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by owners	6
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	—

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	8
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Nature of Visit or Inspection.	No. of Visits.
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by owners	7
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	—
C.—Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	11
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	5
D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit	—
4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding	
(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	19
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	27
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	119
(b) (i) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	9
(ii) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	18

